Alleged Perpetrator's Interview Tool

- **Determine whether it is safe to proceed with this interview based on information received from adult victim and child.**
- **Explain your role and responsibilities of DSS.**
- **Assure him/her that you are concerned about the family.**

A. Assessing Power and Control

1. Tell me about your relationship. How do you communicate with each other? How and what do you argue about?
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2. How do you, your partner, and your child handle conflict?
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_____

3. What kinds of things do you expect from your partner/family?
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4. What do you do when you don't get what you expect?
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_____
_____

5. How did your family handle arguments? (family of origin)
_____
_____
_____

6. Did you ever see violence in your home when you were a child? Please explain.
_____
_____
_____

B. Assessing the Level of Abuse:

1. Has anyone ever told you your temper was a problem for you? ☐ yes   ☐ no
2. Have you been so angry you wanted to physically hurt someone? ☐ yes   ☐ no
3. When was the last time you became physical with someone in your family? What happened?
_____
_____

4. How many times have the police come to your home? Why? Who called? What happened?

_____
_____

5. Have you put your partner down or called him/her names? ☐ yes　☐ no
6. If yes, have you done so repeatedly? ☐ yes　☐ no
7. Have you made your partner feel bad about him/herself, made your partner think he/she was crazy, or played mind games? ☐ yes　☐ no
8. If yes, have you done so repeatedly? ☐ yes　☐ no
9. Has there ever been a time when you hit, slapped, pushed, kicked, strangled, or burned your partner? ☐ yes　☐ no
10. If yes, have you done so repeatedly? ☐ yes　☐ no
11. Have you ever forced your partner to perform sexual acts? ☐ yes　☐ no
12. If yes, have you done so repeatedly? ☐ yes　☐ no

C. Assessing Risk to the Children:

1. Tell me about your children.

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_____

2. How do you discipline your children?

_____
_____

3. What do you expect from your children?

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4. Tell me about how your children are affected by hearing/seeing fighting in your home?

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NOTES_____
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Interview Tool with Alleged Perpetrator Procedures

Assessing the dangerousness of the alleged perpetrator is important; doing so protects the social worker and lessens the risk for children and the non-offending parent/adult victim. When interviewing the alleged perpetrator, ask about their relationship with the non-offending parent, parenting, safety and well-being of the children. Do not reveal information to the alleged perpetrator obtained from your interview with the non-offending parent or the child; specifically never release the location of the non-offending parent and child. Use information from third party reports, such as court and police records. Follow up on legal accountability and/or approved abuser treatment/intervention programs, and other service referrals for the alleged perpetrator.

Which cases:	All CPS maltreatment reports alleging domestic violence with a family caregiver. This tool complements the use of SDM tools and can be used as your interview documentation.
Who completes:	Social worker assigned to complete the investigative assessment.
When:	This interview tool shall be completed as early as possible in the investigative assessment. Your interview with the alleged perpetrator should take into account the safety of the adult victim, child, and your own safety. If the batterer has a criminal record, share a copy of the police record with him. This provides additional information that may contradict his information. This may cause him to become angry, so be careful in your choice to share the criminal record. You would only share information from a criminal record when there are protective factors in place and the non-offending adult victim is willing to access safety resources.
Decision:	The answers you have received so far will help you assess the following: history of domestic violence in the alleged perpetrator's childhood, whether expectations of his/her partner and children are realistic, whether his/her responses and reasons for his/her anger are appropriate, and the alleged perpetrator's level of responsibility and accountability for the violent behavior.